

the launch of Frontier in 2022, the first machine to break the exascale barrier.

Under Dr. Zacharia's leadership, ORNL has operated a research reactor with the highest neutron flux in the United States, the most powerful accelerator source of pulsed neutrons for materials research, the largest and most advanced additive manufacturing equipment, and facilities that produce, purify, and ship the most isotopes. He has positioned the laboratory to play a central role in our Nation's pursuit of breakthrough technologies for energy, cybersecurity, quantum, and other diverse fields.

Dr. Zacharia has also expanded the Laboratory's impact in the Oak Ridge Corridor by leading new ventures to attract technology startups and create a pipeline for the next generation of scientists and engineers.

I hope our colleagues join us in recognizing Dr. Zacharia for his tremendous contributions to the Nation, and on behalf of the U.S. Senate, we wish him the best in his future endeavors.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO RABBI STUART WEINBLATT

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, this Friday will be a joyous occasion at Congregation B'nai Tzedek in Potomac, MD—a Shabbat dinner to celebrate Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt's 70th birthday. His Excellency Michael Herzog, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, will be the guest speaker at the dinner. Rabbi Weinblatt founded Congregation B'nai Tzedek 34 years ago with just a few families. Today, the Conservative synagogue is thriving, with 650 families. The growth and well-being of Congregation B'nai Tzedek is a testament to Rabbi Weinblatt's vision, persistence, and charismatic leadership.

Rabbi Weinblatt graduated from the University of Maryland with high honors in history. While he was an undergraduate, he helped to establish the Jewish Studies Program and represented the student body to the Maryland State government. He was ordained at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. Rabbi Weinblatt has been an adjunct professor at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, teaching Jewish history, Bible, and theology. He is widely recognized as a gifted teacher, speaker, and author. "Washington Jewish Week" readers have voted him the "Best Rabbi in Washington" on numerous occasions. The "Forward" newspaper recognized Rabbi Weinblatt as "One of the Most Inspiring Rabbis in America" in 2016. He received the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington's "Pillar of the Community" award and a "Man of the Year" award from the Greater Washington Chapter of ORT, the global Jewish educational network that prepares students for ca-

reers in science, technology, engineering, and math—STEM.

Rabbi Weinblatt has served as president of the Washington Board of Rabbis, chaired the National Convention of the Rabbinical Assembly in Jerusalem and in Washington DC, and chaired the prestigious Annual Israel Bonds' Ambassador's Ball. He authored "God, Prayer and Spirituality," a compilation of his sermons, writings, and articles. He is known for his effective use of humor, even when dealing with his own cancer, which he chronicled in "Living in the Shadow of Death: A Rabbi Copes with Cancer," a book one reviewer described as "a comforter to others . . . [and] also a valuable tool for clergy and health care professionals who interact with and counsel individuals in similar situations." He is a frequent columnist for the Jewish News Syndicate, often commenting on the State of Israel.

Rabbi Weinblatt is president of the Rabbinic Cabinet of the Jewish Federations of North America and has served as director of Israel Policy and Advocacy for the Rabbinical Assembly. He heads the Jewish National Fund's "Rabbis for Israel." In these roles, Rabbi Weinblatt has played a critical role in strengthening the enduring bond between our two democracies, whose diplomatic partnership will celebrate its 75th anniversary next May. Today, in a world in turmoil, in the Middle East region and beyond, our bilateral relationship is more important than ever, and Rabbi Weinblatt can be justly proud of the role he has played in securing this bond.

The mission statement of Congregation B'nai Tzedek emphasizes the collective responsibility to do "tikun olam," to give "tzedekah," and to perform "mitzvot" regularly "as a means of supporting Jewish causes and all people in need." The Congregation is committed to making Jewish values relevant and meaningful in today's world and, under Rabbi Weinblatt's inspired leadership, it succeeds. On behalf of my Senate colleagues, I would like to join the families of Congregation B'nai Tzedek; Rabbi Weinblatt's wife Symcha, his children, and grandchildren; his rabbinical colleagues; Ambassador Herzog; and everyone else fortunate to know him as a friend or mentor in wishing him a happy 70th birthday, "ad me'ah v'esrim!"

##### TRIBUTE TO SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT RYAN E. BYRNE

• Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, it is my great privilege to recognize Senior Master Sergeant Ryan E. Byrne—senior enlisted leader of the 389th Fighter Generation Squadron, Mountain Home Air Force Base, ID—for his distinguished military service.

Senior Master Sergeant Ryan E. Byrne has dedicated two decades of service to the U.S. Air Force, ensuring that our Nation's frontline of air defense and precision strike is properly

trained and equipped to deter or destroy our adversaries. He exemplifies the best qualities of an airman, consistently demonstrating a calm and dependable demeanor in high stakes, no-fail situations.

Throughout his various deployments in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Inherent Resolve, Spartan Shield, Pacific Iron, Noble Eagle, he masterfully utilized his team's combat capabilities to deliver on call, around the clock airpower. His actions ensured the safe, reliable maintenance of the U.S. Air Force premier strike fighter, the F-15E, which led to the decimation of foreign terror threats including the Taliban, Al-Qaeda, and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

Senior Master Sergeant Ryan E. Byrne was instrumental in sustaining combat readiness of the revered 389th Thunderbolts from Mountain Home Air Force Base, ID, which propelled the 389th T-Bolts in surpassing several of Air Force Central Command's longstanding records. He is a recipient of the Air Force Meritorious Service award, which is a true testament to his forthright leadership and commitment to the mission and our great Nation.

I join all grateful Americans in extending a sincere thank you and heartfelt congratulations to Senior Master Sergeant Ryan E. Byrne for his decorated service in protecting the United States of America. •

##### ANNIVERSARY OF TORNADOES IN WESTERN KENTUCKY

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, almost 1 year ago, on December 10, 2021, multiple tornadoes touched down all throughout western Kentucky, including one historic supercell tornado that affected multiple States and ended in Kentucky. Lives were upended as homes, businesses, and towns were completely destroyed. In many places, the destruction was total and absolute. At a time when families were to be preparing for a joyous holiday season, they were instead greeted by sorrow and loss, while being surrounded by an uneasy reality of wreckage and despair.

Immediately, local citizens, Kentuckians around the Commonwealth, and people from across the country converged on western Kentucky to help in any way they could. Disaster relief teams sprang into action to meet the needs of those who were impacted and who had lost everything. I am grateful that Kentuckians rose up in the face of this crisis to do whatever was necessary to help and to provide care for our neighbors.

While outside organizations and ministries provided essential services, the real heroes of the story are the communities themselves that were destroyed by the tornado. Through this historic crisis, the men and women of western Kentucky have demonstrated resilience and compassion as they care for the communities they call home. From